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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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PITARO, RYAN F				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/614,606

Applicant(s)

FABRICK, RICHARD W.

Examiner

RYAN F. PITARO

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SE/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-45 have been examined.

Response to Amendment

2. This action is in response to the amendment filed 12/08/2008.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/8/2008 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-11,16-26,31-33,37-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haken ("Haken", US 7,124,374) in view of Keller ("Keller", US 6,842,795) in view of Stone et al ("Stone", "Point Right:Experience with Flexible Input Redirection in Interactive Workspaces").

As per claim 1, Haken teaches a pointing device control method for mapping a pointing device to a plurality of displays (Figure1), comprising: mapping the pointing device to a first one of the displays (Column 3 lines 16-19); detecting a position indicated by the pointing device (Column 3 lines 16-19); determining if the position indicated by the pointing device is a position that corresponds to another one of the displays (Column 3 lines 16-19). Haken fails to distinctly point out remapping since he uses a relative pointing device. However, Keller teaches remapping the pointing device to the other one of the displays (Column 4 lines 1-31, shifting focus with an input device, (stylus)). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Keller with the method of Haken. Motivation to do so would have been to provide more accurate representation than relative methods. Haken-Keller fails to particularly point out remapping with an absolute pointing device. However, Stone teaches remapping an absolute pointing device to a first and another display (page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Stone with

the method of Haken-Keller. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a natural and intuitive way to interact with multiple devices.

As per claim 2, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the position corresponding to the other display is near an edge (Haken, Column 3 lines 16-19, Column 3 lines 36-39).

As per claim 3, Haken-Keller-Stone fails to expressly teach the pointing device control method of claim 2, wherein the edge is an edge of a graphics tablet (Keller, Column 4 lines 9-20, Stone, page 2 To solve this problem...) .

As per claim 4, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 2 wherein the edge is an edge of an active display (Haken, Column 3 lines 1-15, Stone, page 2 To solve this problem...).

As per claim 5, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the pointing device is an absolute pointing device (Keller, Column 4 lines 21-30, Stone, page 3 Screen-bound).

As per claim 6, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1 wherein the pointing device includes a graphics tablet (Keller, Column 4 lines 9-20, Stone page 3 Screen-Bound).

As per claim 7, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the pointing device includes a stylus (Keller, Column 4 lines 21-30).

As per claim 8, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1 wherein remapping the pointing device includes changing which of the plurality of displays is controlled by the pointing device (Haken, Column 3 lines 16-20, Stone page 3 Flexible and Dynamic Topolgy, and Screen bound).

As per claim 9, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including a preliminary step of defining the width of a proximity zone near an edge to establish the position corresponding to the other monitor (Haken ,Column 3 lines 16-20.

As per claim 10, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including a preliminary step of identifying and storing the relative positions each of the plurality of displays (Haken, Column 3 lines 35-37 and Keller, Column 9 lines 17-25).

As per claim 11, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including: a preliminary step of recording the existence or nonexistence of a display on the left of each of the plurality of displays; and a

preliminary step of recording the existence or nonexistence of a display on the right of each of the plurality of displays (Haken, Column 2 lines 62-Column 3 lines 15, Figure 1).

Claim 16 is similar in scope to that of claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 17 is similar in scope to that of claim 2, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 18 is similar in scope to that of claim 3, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 19 is similar in scope to that of claim 4, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 20 is similar in scope to that of claim 5, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 21 is similar in scope to that of claim 6, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 22 is similar in scope to that of claim 7, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 23 is similar in scope to that of claim 8, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 24 is similar in scope to that of claim 9, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 25 is similar in scope to that of claim 10, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 26 is similar in scope to that of claim 11, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 31, Haken teaches a computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure comprising: a position field containing data representing a position for triggering a process for remapping a pointing device to another display (Column 3 lines 35-38); and a position field containing data representing the position of the pointing device (Column 4 lines 3-19). Haken fails to distinctly point out remapping since he uses a relative pointing device. However, Keller teaches remapping the

pointing device to the other one of the displays (Column 4 lines 1-31, shifting focus with an input device, (stylus)). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Keller with the method of Haken. Motivation to do so would have been to provide more accurate representation than relative methods. Haken-Keller fails to particularly point out remapping with an absolute pointing device. However, Stone teaches remapping an absolute pointing device to a first and another display (page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Stone with the method of Haken-Keller. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a natural and intuitive way to interact with multiple devices.

As per claim 32, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the position field contains data representing the width of an area near an edge (Haken, Column 4 lines 3-19, Figure 2).

As per claim 33, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the computer-readable medium of claim 32, wherein: the pointing device includes a graphics tablet and a stylus; and the edge is an edge of the graphics tablet (Keller, Column 4 lines 21-30).

As per claim 37, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the computer-readable medium of claim 31, and further including an adjacent monitor field containing data representing the presence of a display adjacent an active monitor (Haken, Column 3 lines 35-39).

As per claim 38, Haken teaches a graphics display system comprising: a plurality of displays (Figure 1); a pointing device (Figure 1); a position monitor (Column 3 lines 16-39); and a remapper responsive to output from said position monitor, and operative to automatically remap the pointing device from one of the displays to another one of the displays (Column 3 lines 16-39). Haken fails to distinctly point out remapping since he uses a relative pointing device. However, Keller teaches remapping the pointing device to the other one of the displays (Column 4 lines 1-31, shifting focus with an input device, (stylus)). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Keller with the method of Haken. Motivation to do so would have been to provide more accurate representation than relative methods. Haken-Keller fails to particularly point out remapping with an absolute pointing device. However, Stone teaches remapping an absolute pointing device to a first and another display (page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Stone with the method of Haken-Keller. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a natural and intuitive way to interact with multiple devices.

As per claim 39, Haken teaches a graphics display system comprising: a plurality of displays (Figure 1); a pointing device (Figure 1); and means for automatically remapping the pointing device from one of the displays to another one of the displays (Column 3 lines 16-39). Haken fails to distinctly point out remapping since he uses a relative pointing device. However, Keller teaches remapping the pointing device to the other one of the displays (Column 4 lines 1-31, shifting focus with an input device, (stylus)). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Keller with the method of Haken. Motivation to do so would have been to provide more accurate representation than relative methods. Haken-Keller fails to particularly point out remapping with an absolute pointing device. However, Stone teaches remapping an absolute pointing device to a first and another display (page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Stone with the method of Haken-Keller. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a natural and intuitive way to interact with multiple devices.

As per claim 40, Haken teaches a method for mapping a pointing device to multiple displays, said method comprising: mapping the pointing device to a first display;

and automatically remapping the pointing device to a second display (Column 3 lines 16-39). Haken fails to distinctly point out remapping since he uses a relative pointing device. However, Keller teaches remapping the pointing device to the other one of the displays (Column 4 lines 1-31, shifting focus with an input device, (stylus)). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Keller with the method of Haken. Motivation to do so would have been to provide more accurate representation than relative methods. Haken-Keller fails to particularly point out remapping with an absolute pointing device. However, Stone teaches remapping an absolute pointing device to a first and another display (page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Stone with the method of Haken-Keller. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a natural and intuitive way to interact with multiple devices.

As per claim 41, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches the method of claim 40, wherein the step of automatically remapping the pointing device to the second display includes: receiving a predefined input via the pointing device indicative of a user's desire to use the second display (Haken, Column 3 lines 35-39); and remapping the pointing device to the second display responsive to receipt of the predefined input (Haken, Column 3 lines 16-39, Stone page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation).

As per claim 42, Haken teaches a computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure comprising: a first field containing data indicative of a particular display; and a second field containing data indicative of said particular display's position relative to a second display (Column 4 lines 3-19). Haken fails to distinctly point out remapping since he uses a relative pointing device. However, Keller teaches remapping the pointing device between said second display and said particular display (Column 4 lines 1-31, shifting focus with an input device, (stylus)). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Keller with the method of Haken. Motivation to do so would have been to provide more accurate representation than relative methods. Haken-Keller fails to particularly point out remapping with an absolute pointing device. However, Stone teaches remapping an absolute pointing device to a first and another display (page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Stone with the method of Haken-Keller. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a natural and intuitive way to interact with multiple devices.

As per claim 43, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches a computer-readable medium according to Claim 42, wherein: said second field contains perimeter coordinates associated with a display area of said particular display (Haken, Column 3 lines 35-39).

As per claim 44, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches a computer-readable medium according to Claim 42, wherein said second field contains data indicative of the position of a boundary between said particular display and said second display (Haken, Column 3 lines 35-39, Stone page 4 Sender and Receiver Implementation).

As per claim 45, Haken-Keller-Stone teaches a computer-readable medium according to Claim 44, wherein said data structure further comprises a third field containing data indicative of said second display (Haken, Column 2 lines 63-67).

5. Claims 14-15, and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Haken ("Haken" US 7,124,374) in view of Stone et al ("Stone", "Point Right: Experience with Flexible Input Redirection in Interactive Workspaces").

As per claim 14, Haken teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining if the position indicated by the pointing device is a position that corresponds to another one of the displays includes: determining which of

the plurality of displays is an active display (Column 2 lines 62-Column 3 lines 15); determining whether the pointing device is indicating a position near a specific edge (Column 3 lines 39-68); and determining if there is a display in a direction indicated by the specific edge (Column 3 lines 39-68). Haken fails to particularly point out remapping with an absolute pointing device. However, Stone teaches remapping an absolute pointing device to a first and another display (page 3 Screen-bound, page 4 Receiver Implementation). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Stone with the method of Haken. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a natural and intuitive way to interact with multiple devices.

As per claim 15, Haken-Stone teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, wherein: the position indicated by the pointing device is a left edge (Figure 1).

Claim 29 is similar in scope to that of claim 14, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 30 is similar in scope to that of claim 15, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

6. Claims 12,13,27,28,34,35,36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haken ("Haken" US 7,124,374) and Keller ("Keller", US 6,842,795) Haken ("Haken" US 7,124,374) in view of Stone et al ("Stone", "Point Right:Experience with Flexible Input Redirection in Interactive Workspaces") in view of Numazaki ("Numazaki", US 5,990,893).

As per claim 12, Haken-Keller-Stone fails to distinctly point out timing the pointing device. However, Numazaki teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including determining how long the pointing device has indicated the position corresponding to the other one of the displays (Column 7 lines 35-63). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Numazaki with the method of Haken-Keller-Stone. Motivation to do so would have been so that command would not accidentally be assigned to a different device.

As per claim 13, Haken-Keller-Stone-Numazaki teaches the pointing device control method of claim 1, and further including: a preliminary step of setting an elapsed time which the pointing device must remain indicating a position near an edge before the pointing device is remapped (Numazaki, Column 7 lines 35-63).

Claim 27 is similar in scope to that of claim 12, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 28 is similar in scope to that of claim 13, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 34, Haken-Keller-Stone-Numazaki teaches the computer-readable medium of claim 31, and further including a preset time field containing data representing an activation time period (Numazaki, Column 7 lines 35-63).

As per claim 35, Haken-Keller-Stone-Numazaki teaches the computer-readable medium of claim 31, and further including an elapsed time field containing data representing an elapsed time (Numazaki, Column 7 lines 35-63).

As per claim 36, Haken-Keller-Stone-Numazaki the computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the elapsed time is a time, which a pointing device has remained in a designated zone (Numazaki, Column 7 lines 35-63).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-45 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RYAN F. PITARO whose telephone number is (571)272-4071. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm Mondays through Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ryan F Pitaro/
Examiner, Art Unit 2174